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AGN. NO. 5-1

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

June 10, 2014

**COUNTYWIDE SERVICE INTEGRATION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENTS TO
SUPPORT CHILD WELFARE AND SAFETY**

The Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Safety offered valuable insights into the Los Angeles County child welfare system and offered recommendations – including many aimed at increasing programs and services to families and children. The County of Los Angeles currently spends nearly \$6.8 billion each year to assist children and families. To improve outcomes for children and families we need to focus on the most critical components. What is needed is to enhance County-wide service integration functions and a greater role for law enforcement to investigate and report instances of child abuse.

In 2000, the Board of Supervisors created the Service Integration Branch within the Chief Administrative Office.

The purpose of the Service Integration Branch was to greatly enhance services for children and families through the coordination of policy initiatives; integration of service delivery systems (including analysis and assessment of existing systems and identify issues associated with integrating services); and effective data management, integration and evaluation.

This unit is now housed in the office of the Chief Executive Officer, with 47 budgeted full-time positions and oversight by a Deputy CEO. However, as was made clear in the Blue Ribbon Commission Report, the existing Service Integration Branch, led by the CEO, is not effectively executing its mission or providing the departmental policy integration and service delivery that the Board expected.

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MOLINA _____

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KNABE _____

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In addition, the Interim Report issued by the Blue Ribbon Commission highlighted the importance of thoroughly assessing the well-being of a child and the potential criminal activity of child abuse.

Law enforcement must enhance its approach to allegations originating from DCFS through the Electronic Suspected Child Abuse Reporting System (E-SCARS). In addition, the District Attorney should play a major role in improving law enforcement policies and practices through oversight, trainings and information sharing.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Officer to:

1. Provide a report with the breakdown of the nearly \$6.8 billion spent each year to support children and families in Los Angeles County.
2. Restructure and reconfigure the Service Integration Branch to accomplish, using existing resources, the goals and objectives of when it was adopted in 2000.
3. Work with the District Attorney and law enforcement agencies to implement the recommendations (using existing funds already allocated where possible) as set forth in the Interim Blue Ribbon Commission Report and detailed in the CEO Review of Recommendations Report.

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